

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please cancel the originally-filed Abstract of the Disclosure, and add the accompanying new Abstract of the Disclosure which appears on a separate sheet in the Appendix.

Please add the following new paragraphs after the paragraph ending on line 10 of page 3:

--DE 43 41 466 describes a device for detecting very little amounts of clear liquid which moves in a transparent tube under the bearing force of air. The known solution, in particular, has a lighting device portion and a light converter cooperating with a photoelement; the lighting device portion outputs a light which is deflected by the liquid and which is detected by the light converter. The light is then directed to the photoelement which outputs signals which are then checked by an analysis unit. On the basis of a comparison with preset values, the analysis unit can ascertain whether the liquid contains impurities and whether a little amount of liquid is flowing into the tube.

The known device contains the transparent tube since the lighting device portion and the light converter are annular-shaped and the tube is located into their holes. Furthermore, said portion and converter are located on two different planes.

The known device uses a photoelement which, cooperating with the light converter, enables the detection of liquid to be obtained.

The other prior art cited in the Search Report, i.e. JP 02271197, JP 62223406, DE 3710920 as anticipating the present invention use a simple photodetector or photoelement and do not use an "image sensor" such as the present invention.--